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Knapp's scheme of 1920 regarding the Government Press employees.

* 437 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place on the table of the House the Knapp's scheme of 1920 relating to the Government Press employees and the report of the Government of India Press Pieceworkers' Committee of 1922 and the orders of the Government passed thereon?

A.—Mr. (now Sir Arthur) Knapp did not formulate any scheme in 1920 for the revision of pay of the employees in the Government Press. The Report of the Pieceworkers' Committee, 1922, is a publication of the Government of India and it cannot be placed on the table without their approval. This Government took no action with regard to it.

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON:—"Is it not a fact that the Salaries Committee was appointed as a result of Sir Arthur Knapp's scheme, and at that time was any redress given to the pieceworkers with regard to their pay?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir Arthur Knapp's scheme did not formulate any proposals with regard to the Government Press employees."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON:—"As a result of Sir Arthur Knapp's scheme, a committee was appointed to consider the revision of pay of the employees in the Government Press, and my question is whether at that time any redress was made with regard to the pay of the pieceworkers establishment."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I want notice of the question, Sir."

Mr SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know if the report of the Pieceworkers' Committee of 1922 contained any proposal for the revision of pay of these workers?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, not for the Madras Government Press."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO:—"May I know whether this Government compared their rates of pay with the rates recommended by the Pieceworkers' Committee in 1922?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I want notice."

Classification of the piecework establishment and the grant of pension.

* 438 Q.—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government of Madras have accepted the recommendation of the Government of India Press Pieceworkers' Committee regarding the classification of the piecework establishment and the grant of pension to all men employed on the 15th July 1920;

(b) whether any period of employment for qualifying for pension has been fixed; and

(c) whether the recommendation of the Government of India Press Pieceworkers' Committee on payment of wages at class rates for 16 days holidays each year has been accepted by the Government of Madras?

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A.—(*a*) No. The Committee has made no recommendations concerning the presses of the Madras Government.

(*b*) Pieceworkers employed on a permanent basis are eligible for pension according to the ordinary rules in the Civil Service Regulations.

(*c*) No. The Committee has made no recommendations concerning the presses of the Madras Government.

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON :— "The answer to clause (*b*) says that they 'are eligible for pension according to the ordinary rules in the Civil Service Regulations.' Is the Government aware that the leave period is not taken into account for pension with regard to the pieceworkers' establishment ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"I am not aware of it."

Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : —"Will the Government make enquiries and see that the matter is redressed ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "I will consider the suggestion."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :— "With regard to the answer that 'the Committee has made no recommendations concerning the presses of the Madras Government,' may I know whether the hon. the Home Member is prepared to consider the recommendations of the Indian Pieceworkers' Committee in regard to these matters and apply them with reference to the conditions in the Madras Government Press ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— "As I have already said, the Indian Pieceworkers' Committee dealt with the workers in the presses of the Government of India, and it had nothing to do with the Madras Government Press."

Grant of increments to pieceworkers in the Government Press.

* 439 *Q.*—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether increments have been sanctioned to the permanent staff and the pieceworkers since 1920, and if so, what the rates of increments are ?

A.—Revised scales of pay were sanctioned for the permanent salaried staff of the Government Press in 1922. Copies[a] of G.O. No. 305, Finance, dated 1st April 1922, and G.O. No. 823, Finance, dated 3rd October 1922, in which these scales were sanctioned are laid on the table.

As regards piecework establishments, the rate of remuneration was raised in 1920 from two annas per 1,000 ens to three annas per 1,000 ens for solid matter and proportionately for others. The war allowance of Rs. 6 per mensem, which they were drawing temporarily from January 1919, was abolished at the same time.

[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 232—242 infra.